

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A domestic electrical appliance, ~~particularly washing machine, clothes drying machine or dishwasher,~~ comprising:

at least one control device[[,]]; and

~~with which is associated~~ at least one display device associated with the control device, the
at least one display device having with a light source for providing visual information to [[the]] a user,

wherein the at least one control device at least partly ~~comprising~~ comprises a covering material which for a standard material thickness is substantially opaque and in an area provided for the at least one display device has at least one transillumination area in which the material thickness of the covering material is so reduced compared with the standard material thickness such that the transillumination area can be transilluminated by the light of the light source.

2. (Currently amended) The domestic electrical appliance according to claim 1, wherein the light source is positioned at [[the]] a back of the control device facing the transillumination area.

3. (Previously presented) The domestic electrical appliance according to claim 1, wherein the covering material is a plastic.

4. (Currently amended) The domestic electrical appliance according to claim 1, wherein the transillumination area of the at least one control device is produced by injection moulding during [[the]] manufacture of the control device.

5. (Previously presented) The domestic electrical appliance according to claim 1, wherein the standard material thickness exceeds approximately 1 mm.

6. (Previously presented) The domestic electrical appliance according to claim 1, wherein the material thickness in the transillumination area is at least zonally less than approximately 0.8 mm.

7. (Currently amended) The domestic electrical appliance according to claim 1, wherein a user-facing front surface of the at least one control device is at least one of closed ~~and/or~~ and substantially smooth in ~~[[the]]~~ a vicinity of the at least one display device.

8. (Currently amended) The domestic electrical appliance according to claim 1, wherein a user-facing front surface of the at least one control device has a visible marking for a function associated with the light source in ~~[[the]]~~ at least one of a vicinity of ~~and/or~~ and in the transillumination area ~~a visible marking for a functionality associated with the light source.~~

9. (Currently amended) The domestic electrical appliance according to claim 2, wherein the at least one control device has a back facing that faces or which can be made to face the light source and which has a macroscopic surface structuring in the transillumination area.

10. (Previously presented) The domestic electrical appliance according to claim 9, wherein the surface structuring is constructed as a structure scattering the light of the light source.

11. (Currently amended) The domestic electrical appliance according to claim 9, wherein the surface structure has a plurality of grooves and raised portions and the covering material is at least zonally transilluminatable, at least in ~~[[the]]~~ a vicinity of the grooves.

12. (Currently amended) The domestic electrical appliance according to claim 1, wherein at least one additional light-varying or light-conducting device~~[[s]]~~ are ~~is~~ located in the transillumination area and comprise separate parts.

13. (Currently amended) The domestic electrical appliance according to claim 12, wherein the at least one light-varying or light conducting device[[s]] ~~are coloured~~ is colored.

14. (Currently amended) The domestic electrical appliance according to claim 12, wherein the at least one light-varying or light conducting device comprises ~~characterized by~~ at least one device selected from the ~~following~~ group consisting of: light guides, light distributors, light deflectors, concentrators, lenses and prisms.

15. (Currently amended) The domestic electrical appliance according to claim 12, wherein the at least one light-varying or light-conducting device is connected in fixed, non-detachable manner with the at least one control device close to or directly at the transillumination area.

16. (Currently amended) The domestic electrical appliance according to claim 12, wherein the at least one light-varying or light-conducting device is detachably fixed to the at least one control device.

17. (Currently amended) The domestic electrical appliance according to claim 1, wherein in the transillumination area, the at least one control device has at least one recess in [[the]] a form of a multisegment display.

18. (Previously presented) The domestic electrical appliance according to claim 1, wherein the light source has at least one light emitting diode.

19. (Previously presented) The domestic electrical appliance according to claim 1, wherein with the transillumination area is associated an actuating device for actuating a function or functional device of the domestic electrical appliance.

20. (Currently amended) The domestic electrical appliance according to claim 19, wherein the actuating device has a sensor device for generating switching signals as a reaction to an approach or contact of an area surrounding the transillumination area and wherein ~~preferably~~ the sensor device is constructed as a capacitive sensor device.

21. (Currently amended) The domestic electrical appliance according to claim 19, wherein the actuating device has at least one sensor element fitted to a back of the at least one control device ~~back~~ and which at least zonally surrounds the transillumination area.

22. (Currently amended) The domestic electrical appliance according to claim 1, wherein the control device is a panel, which is ~~in particular~~ placed in fixed manner on the domestic electrical appliance, the covering material being the panel material and wherein for control purposes there are further actuating devices ~~such as sensor devices or the like~~.

23. (Currently amended) The domestic electrical appliance according to claim 1, wherein the at least one control device is movable and is located on one side of the domestic electrical appliance, ~~e.g. a panel, the control or operation of the domestic electrical appliance being determined by~~ [[the]] at least one of a direction and/or and an extent of [[the]] a movement of the at least one control device.

24. (Currently amended) The domestic electrical appliance according to claim 23, wherein the control device is a toggle with a movement direction in a plane parallel to [[the]] a side of the domestic electrical appliance.

25. (Currently amended) The domestic electrical appliance according to claim 23, wherein the control device is a button with a movement direction into the side of the domestic electrical appliance ~~and is preferably a push button~~.

26. (Currently amended) The domestic electrical appliance according to claim 1, wherein the light source at least partly projects into the at least one control device.

27. (Currently amended) The domestic electrical appliance according to claim 1, wherein the light source is located in the domestic electrical appliance outside the at least one control device and ~~preferably with~~ wherein a light-conducting duct is provided from the light source to the transillumination area ~~and in particular the light-conducting duct is a light guide.~~

28. (Currently amended) A control device, for fixing to an electrical appliance, ~~particularly to a washing machine,~~ the control device including a covering material which at ~~[[the]]~~ a standard material thickness selected for the control device is substantially opaque and in an area provided for a display device for providing ~~[[the]]~~ a user with visual information has at least one transillumination area, in which the covering material thickness is ~~so~~ reduced compared with the standard material thickness such that the transillumination area can at least zonally be transilluminated by the light of a light source positioned facing ~~[[the]]~~ a back of the control device.

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Previously presented) The domestic electrical appliance according to claim 3, wherein the covering material is an ABS plastic.

31. (Previously presented) The domestic electrical appliance according to claim 5, wherein the standard material thickness is at least 2 mm.

32. (Previously presented) The domestic electrical appliance according to claim 6, wherein the material thickness in the transillumination area is less than approximately 0.5 mm.

33. (Previously presented) The domestic electrical appliance according to claim 32, wherein the material thickness in the transillumination area is between approximately 0.3 mm and approximately 0.5 mm.

34. (Currently amended) The domestic electrical appliance according to claim 13, wherein the at least one light-varying or light conducting device[[s]] ~~are~~ is a color wheel[[s]].

35. (Currently amended) The domestic electrical appliance according to claim 14, wherein where the at least one light-varying or light conducting device comprises ~~in the case of~~ light-conducting elements, the light source can also be further removed from the transillumination area.

36. (Currently amended) The domestic electrical appliance according to claim 15, wherein the at least one light-varying or light-conducting device is molded ~~in~~ using a multicomponent process.

37. (Currently amended) The domestic electrical appliance according to claim 17, wherein the at least one control device has at least one recess in ~~[[the]]~~ a form of a seven segment display.

38. (Previously presented) The domestic electrical appliance according to claim 19, wherein the actuating device has no movable parts.

39. (Currently amended) The domestic electrical appliance according to claim 24, wherein the at least one control device is a rotary toggle.